

Društvo AREAL will attend a big public meeting/protest of civil society- all kind of organizations, collectives and individuals on 25th of June. Maybe you got the wrong expression. This is not a political party event. The parties are not even allowed to join "our" protests. The fact that we have sympathizers and support between members of the two parties is a plus for our discourse- but that's it. We are independent and not bonded by no 'political' agreements or rules.

1.) So, on this Friday, 25th we expect a very, very big crowd to gather as Slovenia celebrates 30 years of independence. Meanwhile, the 'elite'- our PM Janez Janša, Austrian PM Kurz and other "important" guests will in the fear of their 'own' people isolate themselves on a 'public' square outside the parliament - police will "close down" nearby streets to celebrate 30th anniversary of "independence". At the same time we as a civil society, a mass of people will protest against an alienated government as we do every Friday since the inception of this Government in March 2020.

I expect to have an opportunity to address the crowd. I will for sure speak about the travesty of our government regarding Naloxone. 'They are saying and they said numerous times (also in media/TV) that Naloxone is now 'available in Slovenia from all those in need' which is just a half-true- man needs to expose himself by visiting a doctor who may be or may not be prescribed Naloxone. This is not enough. We demand Naloxone over the counter available free without preconditioning - as in Italy.

2.) During the weekend- on Saturday or Sunday, we will organize a PUD's meeting at the Drop-In Centre (NGO ŠENT) at Metelkova street. We will discuss the situation with a focus on problems caused by the epidemic, about peer-to-peer Naloxone distribution and invite new volunteers in our already running Naloxone O.D. prevention project.

3.) On Monday or Tuesday, we will organize a meeting/workshop at Kralji Ulice, the Drop-In centre. The clients of Kralji Ulice are mixed in any possible senses, and what is binding them is social misery and life on the fringes of society. We will present our Naloxone O.D. prevention project and discuss the situation caused by COVID-19 measures of our right-wing regime. As colleagues are more up to date with changes in legislation and on the professional discourse that now prevails, we expect to talk about how to start and set up a post-hospital unit. The population is ageing and more and more people from the periphery are left without a limb or two, sometimes only slightly impaired, but the hospital simply puts them on the road, whether they have a place to go or not. I will not mention the consequences on all - the current Government obviously has no feeling for the people. I must point out that we never experienced such a right-wing government and "measures" employed, so many people are mentally in shock too.

Unlike last year, when we had to hide from both the police and the cameras, this year's atmosphere is more relaxed. Police are not looking for people who "violate Government ordinances" by pictures from the internet (fines range from € 700 to € 1,400). Well, in short, expect pictorial and video documentation. We will print around 30 T-shirts and a banner. We will financially help colleagues who are not from Ljubljana to attend the event(s).

All the best, Janko

društvo AREAL

p.s.: For Monday or Tuesday, we are arranging for a possible meeting with refugees and economic migrants on the "Ambasada ROG" project too.

